

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2006-92-WS - ORDER NO. 2006-547

SEPTEMBER 22, 2006

IN RE: Application of Carolina Water Service, Inc.)	ORDER EXTENDING
for Adjustment of Rates and Charges for the)	ISSUANCE DATE OF
Provision of Water and Sewer Services)	MERITS ORDER

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for consideration of an extra five (5) days to issue the Order in this water and sewer rate case docket involving Carolina Water Service, Inc. (CWS or the Company). S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-5-240(C) (Supp. 2005) requires this Commission to rule and issue its order approving or disapproving any rate changes in full or in part within six months after a rate change request is filed. S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-5-240(D) (Supp. 2005), however, states that should the Commission determine that it cannot, due to circumstances reasonably beyond its control, issue such order within the six-month period prescribed by this section, the Commission may, by order, extend the six-month period for an additional five days. In the present case, we believe that such circumstances exist, and we hereby order an extension of the issuance date of the merits order in this case from September 27, 2006, to October 2, 2006.

The "circumstances reasonably beyond our control" are clear in this matter. Procedurally, this matter has taken many "twists and turns." The hearing was postponed after the announcement of the sale of a portion of the Company's assets to Dorchester

County. Further, after a settlement was announced, the hearing on the settlement agreement in the matter and the necessity for subsequent deliberations postponed our final consideration of this case. In addition, this was one of three water-sewer cases filed by Utilities, Inc. in close proximity. The additional days allow for proper preparation and a full review of all aspects of the merits order in this complex water and sewer case. Accordingly, we make the following

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The matter under consideration is an additional five (5) days to issue the merits order in this Docket as allowed by S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-5-240(D) (Supp. 2005).
2. The actual extension would be from September 27, 2006, to October 2, 2006.
3. There are clearly “circumstances beyond our control” existing in this instance that warrant the extension for issuance of the merits order in this Docket.
4. Under the present schedule, there is insufficient time for preparation of the Order and proper review of the Order by Staff and Commissioners.
5. The time for issuance of the merits order in this case should be extended to October 2, 2006.

ORDER

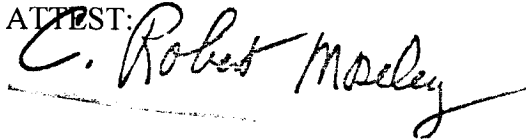
It is therefore ordered that the time for issuance of the merits order in this Docket shall be extended to October 2, 2006. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



G. O'Neal Hamilton, Chairman

ATTEST:



Robert C. Moseley, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)